## IN THE UNITED STATES PATENT AND TRADEMARK OFFICE

| In re application of |  |  |
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Takashi NOZAKI et al. : Mail Stop: PCT

Serial No. NEW : Attorney Docket No. 2006\_0744A

Filed May 18, 2006

SHAFT COUPLING [Corresponding to PCT/JP2004/017186 Filed November 18, 2004]

## INFORMATION DISCLOSURE STATEMENT

Commissioner for Patents
P.O. Box 1450
Alexandria, VA 22313-1450

Sir:

Pursuant to the provisions of 37 CFR 1.56, 1.97 and 1.98, Applicants request consideration of the references listed on attached form PTO-1449 and any additional information identified below in paragraph 3. A legible copy of each reference listed on the Form PTO-1449 is enclosed, except a copy is not provided for:

| IJ      | each U.S. Patent and U.S. Patent application publication;                     |
|---------|---|
| []      | each reference previously cited in the international application PCT/; and/or |
| []      | each reference previously cited in prior parent application Serial No.        |
| [37] TL | 's I. Commed's a Diselement Garden and 's submitted by                        |

1a. [X] This Information Disclosure Statement is submitted:

within three months of the filing date (or of entry into the National Stage) of the above-entitled application, or

before the mailing of a first Office Action on the merits or the mailing of a first Office Action after the filing of an RCE,

and thus no certification and/or fee is required.

1b. [] This Information Disclosure Statement is submitted

after the events of above paragraph 1a and prior to the mailing date of a final Office Action or a Notice of Allowance or an action which otherwise closes prosecution in the application, and thus:

- (1) [] the certification of paragraph 2 below is provided, or
- (2) [] the fee of \$180.00 specified in 37 CFR 1.17(p) is enclosed.
- 1c. [] This Information Disclosure Statement is submitted:

after the mailing date of a final Office Action or Notice of Allowance or action which otherwise closes prosecution in the application, and prior to payment of the issue fee, and thus:

the certification of paragraph 2 below is provided, and

the fee of \$180.00 specified in 37 CFR 1.17(p) is enclosed.

- 2. It is hereby certified
  - a. [] that each item of information contained in this Information Disclosure

    Statement was first cited in any communication from a foreign patent office in a

    counterpart foreign application not more than three months prior to the filing of
    the Statement, or
  - b. [] that no item of information contained in the Information Disclosure Statement was cited in a communication from a foreign patent office in a counterpart foreign application and, to the knowledge of the person signing the certification after making reasonable inquiry, was known to any individual designated in §1.56(c) more than three months prior to the filing of the Statement.

- 3. [] Consideration of the following list of additional information (including any copending or abandoned U.S. application, prior uses and/or sales, etc.) is requested.
- 4. For each non-English language reference listed on the attached form PTO-1449, reference is made to:
  - a. [] a full or partial English language translation submitted herewith,
  - b. [X] the International Search Report (in the English language) submitted herewith,
  - c. [X] the concise explanation contained in the specification of the present application at pages 2 and 3,
  - d. [X] the concise explanation set forth in the attached English language abstract,
  - e. [] the concise explanation set forth below or on a separate sheet attached to the reference:
- 5. [] A foreign patent office search report citing one or more of the references is enclosed.

Respectfully submitted,

Takashi NOZAKI et al.

By Charles R. Watts

Registration No. 33,142

Attorney for Applicants

CRW/asd Washington, D.C. 20006-1021 Telephone (202) 721-8200 Facsimile (202) 721-8250 May 18, 2006

| Sheet 1 of 1   |             |                    | INFORMA   | TION DISCLO     | SURE STATEMENT           | 12 Rec       | 'd PC | 7/770 1  | 8 MAY 2                    | 006         |
|--|-------------|--------------------|---|-----------------|--------------------------|--------------|-------|----------|----------------------------|-------------|
| FORM PTO 1449 ( modified)  U.S. DEPARTMENT OF COMMERCE PATENT AND TRADEMARK OFFICE  LIST OF REFERENCES CITED BY APPLICANT(S) |             |                    | ATTY DOCKET NO. 2006_0744A SERIAL NO. NEW 10/579785 |                 |                          |              |       |          |                            |             |
|  |             |                    | APPLICANT Takashi NOZAKI et al.                     |                 |                          |              |       |          |                            |             |
| (Use several sheets if necessary )  Date Submitted to PTO: May 18, 2006  |             |                    | FILING DATE May 18, 2006                            |                 |                          |              |       |          |                            |             |
| U.S. PATENT DOCUMENTS  |             |                    |   |                 |                          |              |       |          |                            |             |
| *EXAMINER<br>INITIAL   |             | DOCUMENT<br>NUMBER | DATE  |                 | NAME                     | CLAS         | ss    | SUBCLASS | FILING DATE IF APPROPRIATE |             |
|  | AA          |                    |   |                 |                          |              |       | <u> </u> |                            |             |
|  | АВ          |                    |   |                 |                          |              |       |          |                            |             |
|  | AC          |                    |   |                 |                          |              |       |          |                            |             |
|  | AD          |                    |   |                 |                          |              |       |          |                            |             |
|  | AE          |                    |   |                 |                          |              |       |          |                            |             |
|  | AF          |                    | ****  |                 |                          |              |       |          |                            |             |
|  | AG          |                    |   |                 |                          |              |       |          |                            |             |
|  | АН          |                    |   |                 |                          |              |       |          |                            |             |
|  | Al          |                    |   |                 |                          |              |       |          |                            |             |
| FOREIGN PATENT DOCUMENTS   |             |                    |   |                 |                          |              |       |          |                            |             |
|  |             | DOCUMENT<br>NUMBER | DATE  | Co              | DUNTRY                   | CLAS         | ss    | SUBCLASS | TRANSLA<br>YES             | ATION<br>NO |
|  | AJ          | 2-113123           | 4/1990  |                 | JP                       |              |       |          | Abstract                   |             |
|  | AK          | 49-16889           | 4/1974  |                 | JP                       |              |       |          |                            |             |
|  | AL          | 2 114 259          | 8/1983  |                 | GB                       |              |       |          |                            |             |
|  | АМ          | 2003-260902        | 9/2003  | _               | JP                       |              |       |          | Abstract                   |             |
|  | AN          |                    |   |                 |                          |              |       |          |                            |             |
|  | <del></del> | OTHER              | DOCUMENT(S) (i                                      | Including Autho | or, Title, Date, Pertino | ent Pages, E | tc.)  |          |                            |             |
|  | AO          |                    |   |                 |                          |              |       |          |                            |             |
| .,,,,  | AP          |                    |   |                 | ·                        |              |       |          |                            |             |
|  | AQ          |                    |   |                 | <u> </u>                 | _            |       |          |                            |             |
| EXAMINER   |             |                    |   | <u></u>         | DATE CONSIDER            | RED          |       |          |                            |             |